AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic comic viewing apparatus for viewing on a screen of a display device an electronic comic including at least one frame on each page, which frame comprises a balloon portion displaying words and a frame image,

wherein the apparatus uses image data, including the balloon portion and the frame image, and text data indicating words in order to display words based on the text data in the balloon portion; and

wherein the electronic comic is displayed frame by frame on the screen by zooming-in each frame sequentially.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein frames on one page are displayed, and either fade-in processing or fade-out processing is performed on a predetermined frame of the displayed frames.

4. (Original) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein text data corresponding to at least two languages are stored as the text data and text data corresponding to a selected language is displayed within the balloon in response to a predetermined operation.

5. (Original) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein words are displayed part by part within the balloon portion in a predetermined order.

6. (Original) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one frame including words in the balloon portion is displayed, and either fade-in processing or fade-out processing is performed on all of the displayed words.

7. (Original) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein frames on one page are displayed, and words in a predetermined frame of the displayed frames are displayed sequentially in a predetermined frame order.

P21975.A06

8. (Currently Amended) An electronic comic viewing method for viewing on a screen of a display device an electronic comic including at least one frame on each page, which frame comprises a balloon portion displaying words and a frame image, comprising:

storing the balloon portion and the frame image as image data;

storing words to be displayed in the balloon portion as text data separately from the image data; ~~and~~

displaying words based on the text data in the balloon portion<u>; and</u>

<u>displaying the electronic comic frame by frame on the screen by zooming-in each frame sequentially</u>.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The electronic comic viewing method according to claim 8, further comprising displaying frames for one page, and performing either fade-in processing or fade-out processing on a predetermined frame of the displayed frames.

11. (Original) The electronic comic viewing method according to claim 8, further comprising storing text data corresponding to at least two languages as the text data, and

displaying text data corresponding to a selected language within the balloon in response to a predetermined operation.

12. (Original) The electronic comic viewing method according to claim 8, further comprising displaying words part by part within the balloon portion in a predetermined order.

13. (Original) The electronic comic viewing method according to claim 8, further comprising displaying at least one frame including words in the balloon portion, and

performing either fade-in processing or fade-out processing on all of the displayed words.

14. (Original) The electronic comic viewing method according to claim 8, further comprising displaying frames on one page, and sequentially displaying words in a predetermined frame of the displayed frames in a predetermined frame order.

15. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which is recorded a program for viewing on a screen of a display device an electronic comic including at least one frame

on each page, which frame comprises a balloon portion displaying words and a frame

image, the program comprising:

a word displaying code segment that ~~wherein the program~~ uses image data

including the balloon portion and the frame image and text data indicating words in order

to display words based on the text data in the balloon portion; and

a comic displaying code segment that displays the electronic comic frame by frame

on the screen by zooming-in each frame sequentially.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein frames for

one page are displayed, and either fade-in processing or fade-out processing is performed

on a predetermined frame of the frames.

18. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein text data

corresponding to at least two languages are stored as the text data and text data

corresponding to a selected language is displayed within the balloon in response to a

predetermined operation.

19. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein words are displayed part by part within the balloon portion in a predetermined order.

20. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein at least one frame including words in the balloon portion is displayed, and

either fade-in processing or fade-out processing is performed on all of the displayed words.

21. (Original) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein frames for one page are displayed, and words in a predetermined frame among the displayed frames are displayed sequentially in a predetermined frame order.

22. (New) The electronic comic viewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus displays a next frame in response to a user operation.

23. (New) The electronic comic viewing method of claim 8, further comprising displaying a next frame in response to a user operation.

P21975.A06

24. (New) The medium according to claim 15, further comprising a switching code segment that switches display to a next frame in response to a user operation.